

4-6-1918

Letter: Wesley Bouslog to Opal Valentine Baker, April 6, 1918

Wesley Bouslog

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"WITH THE COLORS"



4/6/18

Dearest Valentine: ~

Received your letter today and from its contents I know you felt very badly at the time it was written, but hope you are feeling better and are at the present reconciled. That we can not always choose is evident and so let all have sweet dreams of the present. What would life be without sweet dreams of the future also? In some way or other our future can not be all dark and cloudy but must at least have some sunshine and happiness. My sympathy goes out to you, your mother and all those who have parted from a loved one and hope that it will only be for a very short time.

I hope and trust that Jesse may never see foreign service. If he must my hopes are that he may be spared to again return to those loved ones at home. I know it is hard to be cheerful in midst of all, but turn away all worry, smile and behind this smile let your look be one of determination. By doing so you are backing the boys in "Kahai". Bear in mind that the destiny of the world depends upon the Stars & Stripes. It gave Liberty and Justice to the world and now it defends that which it gave.

We had a Liberty Parade in Camp today. The whole came turned out in parade heralding the beginning of the New Liberty Loan Drive. The parade was headed by military band and you should have seen those youths, America's pride. Their faces spelled war to the Kaiser. The Liberty Loan will be



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a success for we know we are backed at home. This Loan will break The Kaiser's Heart.

The events of the last few weeks have given me a different view as to the end of the war, for I can now see The Kaiser's doom and I actually believe this war is nearing an end.

Until the present drive of the Kaiser was made and checked I was of the opinion that this war would last years yet, but now I can see a much shorter end.

He failed to accomplish his aims and tho' he gained a few square miles of ground his losses were terrible and Germany's man power can not be replaced, while the Allies have reserves for years to come. This war

will not last forever and
every day brings the end
nearer.

I have been with U.S. now
for 4 mos. I have no regrets or
complaints to make and I shall
never lay aside the uniform until
the Kaiser bows to the Stars & Stripes.

That's the spirit of 1,500,000
Kakai Lads today. Tho' my home
and loved ones left are dear to
me, I shall sacrifice all I have
even to my life in protection and
defence of them. We realize that
the happiness of 100,000,000 souls
in America depend upon us.

The mother, sister, etc who
cheerfully say to the American
youth, "Go, where duty calls," is
a heroine. Tho' we sacrifice
pleasures and all we are contented.
I have become adapted to Army
Life and to be honest with you



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I am perfectly contented and if I were discharged today I would enlist again tomorrow for I could stand to be at home while my comrades were doing their bit for humanity. This is my war, your war and every free persons war.

In fact my sides are sore today from laughing. I laughed until I couldn't hardly breathe. This is the Incident: -

Yesterday in school a Mr. — from our barracks evidently dreamed that he was being attacked by the Germans, so he let loose with what was beyond doubt a 75 C.M. the French's famous Artillery. It sounded as tho a bombardment was beginning yet only he fired one shot heavy artillery (Get the Idea) Well our instructor said

in a gruff way, "Who did that?"
Of course no one would admit.
"I am going to punish every man
in this room if some one don't
admit it," said our instructor.

Well Mr. — seeing that if he
did confess up, the innocent
would get punished said, "Sir,
I cannot lie, I did it." Such an
outburst of laughter you never
heard (Imagine 150 men laughing)
The instructor said to the guilty
one: "Leave the Room sir, and as
Mr. — passed him going out he
held his fingers over his nose.

I am now laughing for the fellow as
a person about the size of Luther
M. We have named him Geo.
Washington and the mention
of the incident always brings
an outburst of laughter. I will
laugh in years to come over this
incident.

I am glad you liked the
picture of Bryant and myself
but the picture doesn't do Bryant



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justice. As for me, its about as good as any. Why should I worry if you are satisfied?

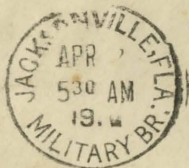
I told Bryant about Lura. and Tho' he is welcome to do as he chooses, I for my part will not ever scuffle her even a line until snow falls in July. Perhaps I should ^{not} condemn her for her father's remarks, but I - him those words of his are written upon my heart. I forgive him only when he extends proper apology.

And Dearest my Watch says
9¹⁰ P.M. Am at the Y.M.C.A.
Lights are soon out so
Bon nuit

Wm.



"WITH THE COLORS"



Miss Opal Baker
Sulphur Springs
Indiana,
Henry County

